



November 2022

NEWSLETTER **TO THE COMMUNITY**

Bull Trail Wind Power Project Connection

UPDATE: Transmission line routes and structure types



**PROJECT
UPDATE**

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the proposed Bull Trail Wind Power Project Connection, and we want to provide you with a project update.

Bull Trail Wind Power Project Connection

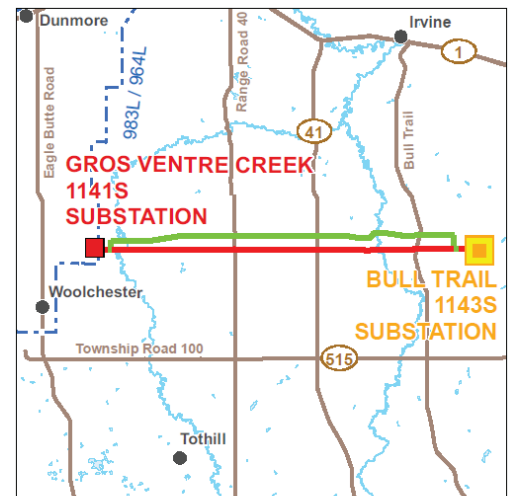
Thank you for your ongoing participation in the Bull Trail Wind Power Project Connection. We began consulting with stakeholders on this proposed project in June 2022 and want to provide you with an update.

With the input we've received from stakeholders, along with information gathered through ongoing field studies and engineering, we have identified preferred and alternate **transmission** line routes that we will include in the application that we file for this project.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

If approved, the Bull Trail Wind Power Project Connection involves:

- constructing a new **substation**, called Gros Ventre Creek
- constructing two new single **circuit 240 kilovolt (kV)** transmission lines to connect the Gros Ventre Creek Substation to an existing line in the area
- constructing approximately 23 kilometres (km) of a new 240 kV transmission line (called 996L) to connect the Gros Ventre Creek and Bull Trail substations
- installing approximately 160 m of new **telecommunications fibre optic cable**



LEGEND

- Proposed Substation
- Approved 3rd Party Substation
- Preferred Transmission Line Route
- Alternate Transmission Line Route
- - - Existing Transmission Line
- Hamlet or Locality
- River or Stream
- Road
- Water Body

Transmission

Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind, high-efficiency coal, natural gas and more.

Kilovolt (kV)

A kilovolt is equal to one thousand volts and is commonly used when describing transmission and distribution lines. AltaLink's transmission lines range from 69 kV (69,000 volts) to 500 kV (500,000 volts). Light bulbs typically range from 120 to 300 volts.

Substation

Substations are the connection points between power lines of varying voltages and contain equipment that controls and protects the flow of power. Substations include transformers that step down and step up the voltage so power can be transmitted through transmission lines or distributed to your community through distribution lines.

Telecommunications fibre optic cable

Fibre optic cable will allow us to communicate more effectively by providing our control centres with valuable data that will be used to maintain the reliability of Alberta's electric system.

Circuit

A circuit is a group of wires that electricity flows through. The wires are strung along power line structures. Transmission line structures can be described as single or double circuit. In a single circuit transmission line, three single or bundled wires are strung along the transmission structures. A double circuit transmission line has six single or bundled wires strung along the structures.

Right-of-way

The right-of-way is a strip of land required for the construction and safe operation of a transmission line. A right-of-way refers to the physical space a transmission line encompasses including areas on either side of the line. The majority of the right-of-way can still be used by the landowner. Buildings cannot be placed on the right-of-way, but can be built up to the edge of the right-of-way.

Updated transmission line routes

The routes and their designation points are shown on the Detail Photo Map (DP1) and Strip Maps included in this package.

PREFERRED ROUTE (shown in red):

AltaLink's preferred route is located within or parallels road allowances. When compared to the alternate route, it generally:

- Requires less right-of-way
- Avoids fragmenting land
- Uses primarily wood monopole structures in an effort to stay within the road allowance, where possible
- Has lower impacts to residences, landowners, agricultural operations, and the environment

ALTERNATE ROUTE (shown in green):

AltaLink's alternate route is located primarily along quarter lines and road allowance. When compared to the preferred route, it generally:

- Requires more right-of-way
- Is located in less road allowance and crosses more private land
- Has higher landowner, agricultural, and environmental impacts
- Is approximately 1.5 km longer than the preferred route and, as a result, has higher associated impacts

We are considering both H-Frame and monopole structures for the alternate route and we want your input. Please see the details for each structure type in the section below and on page 4.

ROUTES REMOVED FROM CONSIDERATION

AltaLink has removed two route segments from further consideration. One route segment was not supported by a majority of stakeholders and did not reduce any potential impacts when compared to the Alternate Route. The other route segment was removed because it was determined to have higher environmental and stakeholder impacts.


If you are only near a removed route, you will no longer receive information from us about this project after this update. Please contact us if you have any questions or wish to stay informed.

Proposed structure types

Based on the information gathered, we have selected primarily monopole structures for the preferred route and primarily H-Frame structures for the alternate route.

In certain locations with geographic or specific land features, a larger right-of-way may be required to allow for greater distance between structures. Please refer to the noteboxes on the strip maps for specific details about right-of-way, structure types, construction workspace, and access and your property.

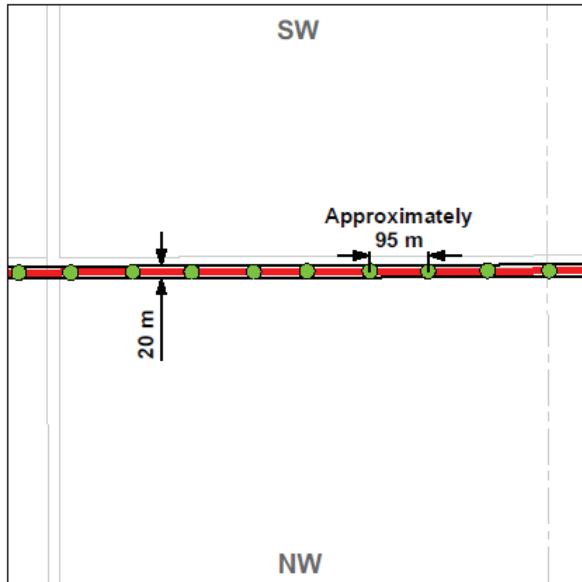
All dimensions are approximate and subject to change with further detailed engineering. The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) will review the application and can approve, approve with conditions, or deny the project. If the project is approved the AUC can approve any of the routes, but only one of the routes will be built.

	MONOPOLE Preferred route	
	Structure height	20 - 40 m
	Right-of-way width:	
	• When on private property	20 m
	• When in road allowance	10 m
	Distance between structures	Approximately 95 m
	Material	Wood
Can be placed on road allowance	Yes	
Can be placed on private property	Yes	
	H-FRAME Alternate route	
	Structure height	20 - 40 m
	Right-of-way width:	
	• When on private property	35 m
	• When in road allowance	23 m
	Distance between structures	Approximately 235 m
	Material	Wood or steel
Can be placed on road allowance	Yes	
Can be placed on private property	Yes	

**The monopole structure in the picture above is steel but it will be constructed as a wood structure.*

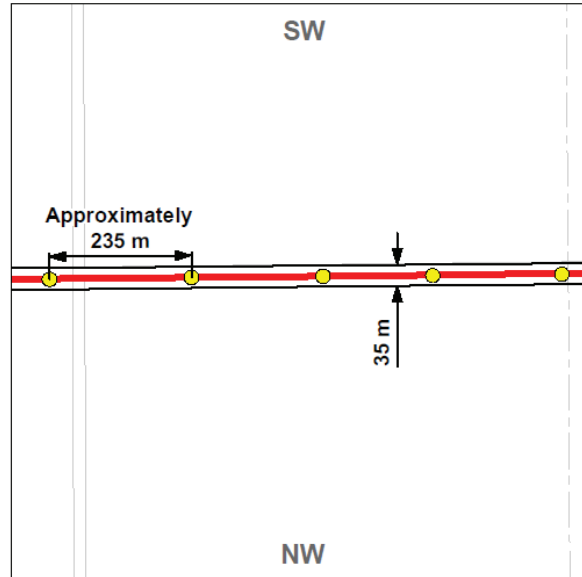
Potential structure locations

Potential structure locations are still being determined and will depend on which option is approved. To give you an idea of the spacing of each structure type, please refer to the drawings below which show what the right-of-way and distance between structures will generally be for the structures if located on private property. We will provide an update on potential structure locations as the project progresses and will work with individual landowners on structures that may be located on their property.



LEGEND

- Monopole Structure
- Potential Transmission Line Route
- 20m Right-of-Way Boundary



LEGEND

- H-frame Structure
- Potential Transmission Line Route
- 35m Right-of-Way Boundary

Proposed Gros Ventre Creek Substation

In our previous information package, we proposed a target area for the new the Gros Ventre Creek Substation. We are now proposing to locate the substation in the southwest corner of the target area (SW-29-10-4-W4). The dimensions of the substation have been updated to be 55 x 103 metres.

To connect the Gros Ventre Creek Substation, we are building two new single circuit transmission lines (called 983L and 991L):

- the connection from the 983L transmission line, south of the substation, will be approximately 250 m
- the connection from the 991L transmission line, north of the substation, will be approximately 500 m

These two lines are replacing approximately 700 m of an existing double circuit transmission line called 964L/983L.

Please refer to the DP1 and strip maps for an illustration of the substation location and transmission line connections.



**The new substation will look similar to the photo above*



IMPORTANT

If you have any questions about the need for this project, please contact the AESO directly at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca or 1.888.866.2959.

Construction Workspace

In addition to the transmission line right-of-way, construction workspace is required for the safe construction of the transmission line. The requirements for this workspace vary depending on the location. Construction workspace is shown on the strip maps included in this package and detailed below:

- Behind a corner structure, a 25x46 m easement for guy wires may be required
- Beside an angle structure, a 12x46 m easement for guy wires may be required
- Behind a corner or angle structure, 45x150 m for construction workspace may be required for the stringing of the line
- Near the right-of-way, 40x40 m of construction workspace may be required for construction activities and for trucks and other vehicles to use as turn around sites
- Access trails may be up to 8 m wide
- Adjacent to the right-of-way, up to 10 m of construction workspace may be required

AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding potential construction workspace and access trails.





Next Steps

We will contact landowners, residents and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public, while ensuring that we are able to continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans.

We will follow any requested COVID-19 safety protocols for in-person meetings and accommodate your preferred meeting options, including over the phone, virtual or in-person. You can also provide input through our online feedback portal, found here: www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback.

After our consultation process is complete, we will file a Facilities Application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) and it will be reviewed through a process in which stakeholders can participate. To learn more about the AUC process and how you can become involved, please refer to the brochure included in this package titled *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*.

We will notify you once the application has been filed and again when the AUC has made its decision regarding the project. If the project is approved, construction is expected to begin in Spring 2024. While we believe all of the remaining route options are viable, only one route will be constructed, if approved by the AUC.

ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

Notify and consult with stakeholders: June to December 2022

File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC): February 2023

Start construction if project is approved: Spring 2024

Complete construction: September 2024

Although we attempt to follow the anticipated project schedule it is subject to change. We will continue to provide you with updated schedule information if required as the project progresses.

Contact us

To learn more about the proposed project, please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll-free)

stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

To learn more about Bull Trail's proposed project please contact:

Bull Trail Renewable Energy Centre Limited Partnership

Mark Gallagher, Development Manager

403-448-3922

E-mail: Mark.Gallagher@edf-re.com

To learn more about the application and review process, please contact:

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)

780-427-4903 (toll-free 310-0000 before the number)

E-mail: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

To learn more about Alberta's electric system and the need for the project, please contact:

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

1-888-866-2959 (toll-free)

Website: www.aeso.ca

The AESO is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable and economic planning and operation of the provincial transmission grid. For more information about why this project is needed, please refer to the AESO's Need Overview included with this package or visit www.aeso.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project or the proposed transmission development to meet the need you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your questions or concerns known to a transmission facility owner representative who will collect your personal information for the purpose of addressing your questions and/or concerns to the AESO. This process may include disclosure of your personal information to the AESO.

PRIVACY COMMITMENT

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. Collected personal information will be protected under AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the Personal Information Protection Act. As part of the regulatory process for new transmission projects, AltaLink may provide your personal information to Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). For more information about how AltaLink protects your personal information, visit our website at www.altalink.ca/privacy or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.


INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure:
Participating in the AUC's independent review process

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